United States Mint Unveils 2020 Basketball Hall of Fame Coin Designs

September 6, 2019

SPPRINGFIELD, MA – The United States Mint (Mint) unveiled designs for the 2020 Basketball Hall of Fame Coin Program today during the 2019 Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame Enshrinement Ceremony at Springfield Symphony Hall.

The designs will be featured on three dome-shaped coins: a $5 gold, a $1 silver, and a half-dollar clad. Public Law 115-343 authorizes the minting and issuance of these coins in recognition of the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

The common obverse (heads) design was selected from a public competition as required by the authorizing legislation. The winning design, by Mint Artistic Infusion Program (AIP) artist Justin Kunz, portrays the fast pace, intensity, and hands-on action of a basketball game—the constant, competitive struggle for possession of the ball and the skill required to clear the hoop. The design features three players reaching for the ball in unison, reflecting how the sport of basketball has brought together diverse people around the world through a simple, universal, and unifying athletic experience. Their arms are slightly elongated to emphasize the full exertion of physical and mental energy required to excel in this sport. The rim and net are subtle background design elements complementing the three players. Inscriptions are “LIBERTY,” “IN GOD WE TRUST,” and “2020.”

The common reverse design, by AIP artist Donna Weaver, depicts a basketball about to pass through the net, with the inscriptions of “UNITED STATES OF AMERICA” and “E PLURIBUS UNUM.” Additional inscriptions include “FIVE DOLLARS” on the gold coin, “ONE DOLLAR” on the silver dollar, and “HALF DOLLAR” on the clad coin.

Line art of both designs is available here.

The legislation authorizes the Mint to strike and issue up to 50,000 $5 gold coins, 400,000 $1 silver coins, and 750,000 half–dollar clad coins. Surcharges collected from coin sales—$35 for each gold coin, $10 for each silver coin, and $5 for each half–dollar coin—are authorized to be paid to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame to fund an endowment that will enable increased operations and educational programming.

About the United States Mint
Congress created the United States Mint in 1792, and the Mint became part of the Department of the Treasury in 1873. As the Nation’s sole manufacturer of legal tender coinage, the Mint is responsible for producing circulating coinage for the Nation to conduct its trade and commerce. The Mint also produces numismatic products, including proof, uncirculated, and commemorative coins; Congressional Gold Medals; silver and bronze medals; and silver and gold bullion coins. Its numismatic programs are self-sustaining and operate at no cost to taxpayers.

About the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame
The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame is an independent non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to promoting, preserving, and celebrating the game of basketball at every level – men and women, amateur and professional players, coaches and contributors, both domestically and internationally. Located in Springfield, Massachusetts, the birthplace of basketball, it is home to more than 400 inductees and more than 40,000 square feet of basketball history.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- Visit http://www.hoophall.com/ to learn more about the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.
- Visit https://www.usmint.gov/about/ for more information about the United States Mint.
- Visit https://catalog.usmint.gov/email-signup to subscribe to United States Mint electronic product notifications, news releases, and public statements.
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Contact
Press Inquiries: Office of Corporate Communications (202) 354-7222
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